the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. However, the Ministry is implementing several Central Sector & Centrally Sponsored Schemes for the educational, economic and social upliftment of the tribal people important amongst them are:

1. Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Plan of States/UTs
2. Grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution
3. Vocational training in Tribal Areas
4. Grant-in-aid to State Tribal Development Cooperative Corporations for Minor Forest Produce operations
5. Development of Primitive Tribe Groups
6. Post Matric Scholarship for ST Students
7. Grant-in-aid to Voluntary Organisations working for welfare of STs
8. Upgradation of Merit of ST Students
9. Educational Complex in Low Literacy Pockets for development of women's literacy
10. Construction of Girls Hostels for STs
11. Construction of Boys Hostels of STs
12. Establishment of Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub-Plan areas
13. Grants to Tribal Research Institutes
14. Book Bank Scheme for ST Students
15. Coaching and Allied Scheme for STs
16. Village Grain Bank Scheme
17. Assistance to State Tribal Development Finance Corporations
18. National Overases Sholarship scheme for STs
19. Price Support to TRIFED

Proposal to increase the number of post-matric scholarships for ST students

1643. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal to increase the post-matric scholarship for the ST students has not been considered since long;

(b) if so, the reasons for the delay;

(c) whether Government have any proposal to consider the enhancement of post-matric scholarship in the scheduled areas;

(d) if so, since when;

(e) whether the post-matric scholarship of the ST students living in both scheduled and non-scheduled areas would also be enhanced; and

(f) if so, the steps taken in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) and (b) The scheme was last revised in 1998 and prior to that in 1995.

(c) to (f) The scheme is applicable for all ST students in the country, irrespective of whether they are from the scheduled or non- scheduled area, subject to fulfillment of income criteria. Review of the scheme is under consideration.

Transfer of mining lease in tribal areas

1644. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news- item captioned Tribal Ministry had questioned BALCO sale, which appeared in the Times of India, dated 13th July, 2001;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether the issue has been taken up again to ensure prohibition of transfer of mining lease in traibal areas to any agency, other than the State or tribals or co-operative society of tribals;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. This Ministry has already circulated the relevant extracts of the Supreme Court's judgement in the Samatha Case, restricting the transfer of land in Scheduled areas, to the State Governments for strict compliance. However the land acquired for BALCO at the time of setting up the plant was at per the constitutional provision.